

### **REMARKS**

Applicants respectfully request entry of this preliminary amendment prior to examination of the application. Claims 1, 11, 20, 21, 29, 34 and 40 have been amended. Claims 1 – 44 are presented for examination. No new matter has been added.

The present amendments were discussed during an interview with Examiner Boris M. Pesin conducted on January 11, 2007. Applicants thank the Examiner for agreeing to discuss this case. During the interview, the Examiner suggested the Applicants file the instant Supplemental Reply, which incorporates potential claim amendments discussed during the interview. As such, the Reply is clearly limited to adoption of the Examiner's suggestions.

### **Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103**

Claims 1 – 44 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hahn, *et al.*, U. S. Patent No. 5,751,287 (“Hahn”) in view of Billmers, U.S. Patent No. 6,226,630 (“Billmers”).

#### **Claims 20 – 44**

Claims 20 – 44 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hahn in view of Billmers. Applicants have amended independent claims 20, 21, 29, 34 and 40 in response to this rejection. Claims 29, 34 and 40, as amended, now require “storing an item in a data store as an explorer, wherein said explorer houses a set of parameters defining said query and said explorer display schema” and “in response to said user input, executing a set of instructions that reads said set of parameters from said item, wherein said executing further includes querying said data store by utilizing said query to select one or more items having said desired field entry” Similar claim language is now found in claims 20 and 21. Applicants

respectfully submit that neither Hahn nor Billmers, either alone or in combination, teaches these claim elements.

Hahn teaches a user interface that presents documents organized in terms of a file cabinet. The file cabinet is a metaphor for physical file drawers or file folders, and “[i]n response to the user selecting a particular file drawer image, the contents of the particular file drawer image are displayed to the user in much the same way the contents of a physical file drawer are displayed when opened.” Hahn, col. 4, ll. 38- 41. Because many users are familiar with the organization of filing cabinets, the interface of Hahn purports to be an improvement over other document management interfaces.

Billmers teaches a system for organizing received messages. In this system, filtering rules are used to define folders that organize received messages. Billmers, col. 2, ll. 9 – 10. For example, a filter may divide received messages based on message source or message type. Billmers, col. 2, ll. 11 – 15. The system also includes message folders, which include a search query stored within each folder. Billmers, col. 2, ll. 23 – 25. When the user requests to view the contents of a given folder, the search query for that folder is passed to a search engine. Billmers, col. 2, ll. 30 – 35. The search engine generates search results based on the search query. Billmers, col. 2, ll. 30 – 39. In this manner, messages are associated with a given folder, as defined by the search query.

Hahn and Billmers are silent concerning storing a set of parameters defining a query and visual elements in a display schema. Hahn merely teaches displaying files that have been assigned to a folder. Billmers teaches storing a query but does not teach providing parameters defining a query and a display schema. Further, neither reference teaches presenting

an explorer by executing a set of instructions that reads parameters defining a query and display elements.

In contrast, claims 20 and 21, as amended, require an explorer parameter storage component configured to store a set of parameters defining a query and one or more visual elements to be displayed in accordance with an explorer display schema and a module configured to execute a set of instructions that reads said set of parameters to allow presentation of selected items. Similarly, claims 29, 34 and 40, as amended, recite storing as an explorer a set of parameters defining said query and said explorer display schema” and “executing a set of instructions that reads said set of parameters. Neither Hahn nor Billmers, either alone or in combination, teaches or suggests these claim elements.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that independent claims 20, 21, 29, 34 and 40 are now in condition for allowance. Furthermore, Applicants submit that dependent claims 22 - 28, which depend from claim 21, are in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons discussed above with respect to claim 21. Applicants submit that dependent claims 30 - 33, which depend from claim 29, are in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons discussed above with respect to claim 29. Applicants submit that dependent claims 35 - 39, which depend from claim 34, are in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons discussed above with respect to claim 34. Finally, Applicants submit that dependent claims 41 - 44, which depend from claim 40, are in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons discussed above with respect to claim 40.

#### Claims 1 – 19

Claims 1 – 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hahn in view of Billmers. Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 11 in response to

this rejection. Claim 1 now requires “an explorer residing as one of said plurality of items in said data store and housing a first set of parameters and a second set of parameters, wherein said first set of parameters defines a query that identifies one or more desired field entries, and wherein said second set of parameters defines an explorer display schema having one or more visual elements selected for display with items having said one or more desired field entries.” Claim 11 includes similar claim language. Applicants respectfully submit that neither Hahn nor Billmers, either alone or in combination, teaches these claim elements.

As previously discussed, Hahn and Billmers are silent concerning storing a set of parameters defining a query and visual elements in a display schema. Hahn merely displays files that have been assigned to a folder, while Billmers teaches storing a query along with a folder. Neither reference teaches defining an explorer as a set of parameters.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that independent claims 1 and 11 are in condition for allowance. Furthermore, Applicants submit that dependent claims 2 - 10, which depend from claim 1, are in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1. Applicants also submit that dependent claims 12 - 19, which depend from claim 11, are in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons discussed above with respect to claim 11.

**CONCLUSION**

If any issues remain which would prevent issuance of this application, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned prior to issuing a subsequent action. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional amount required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-2112.

Respectfully submitted,

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